



**Janet Napolitano**  
Governor

**Joey Ridenour**  
Executive Director

## Arizona State Board of Nursing

### SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE MINUTES November 28, 2006

**Members Present:** See Attached List

**Guests Present:** See Attached List

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#### **Call to Order:**

Pat Johnson, co-chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

#### **I. Introductions**

Pat introduced Karen Hardy, the new co-chair for the Scope of Practice committee. In addition Pat asked all the committee members and guests to introduce themselves.

#### **II. Review and approval of the August 29, 2006 meeting minutes**

Several date and spelling corrections were noted for change. A motion was made by Vicki Buchda and seconded by Donna Heitmann to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

#### **III. Advisory Opinions approved by the Board at the September and November 2006 meeting included:**

- a. Mediset
- b. Vaginal Speculum Exam and Specimen Collection
- c. Cervical Ripening Agents: Role of the Nurse
- d. Apheresis in the Outpatient Setting

#### **IV. Review of current Advisory Opinions**

##### **A. Infusion Therapy/Venipuncture by Licensed Practical Nurses.**

A lengthy discussion was held regarding whether LPN's should be permitted to give medications via the central line. Susan Poole stated that with long term therapy that family members are doing this. A review of what other boards of nursing permit the LPN to do, showed that some states (23) do allow LPN's to give medications via a central line. Poole, who is a certified IV Specialist, stated she sees the need for more education for LPN's to do this but also sees the need for more education for RN's as well. The committee discussed the educational requirements in the current Advisory Opinion (under III.C.) and proposed to include "medication administration, care and maintenance" of catheters that are currently listed. A review of the community college responses showed that most colleges included the content of the course in the LPN programs. After discussion, the committee felt LPN's should also be allowed to insert subcutaneous lines, instill clotting agents for the purpose of clotting IV catheters, and perform blood withdrawals from IV catheters (except dialysis catheters). It was noted that if some facilities did not want their LPN's to do the additional skills, that they could define that in their facility policy.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

- Send final revisions of proposed draft to all SOP committee members for review. If no further input, submit to January Board meeting for approval. – Judy Bontrager

**B. Anesthetic Agents Administered by RNs for Limited Purposes:**

**Airway Management or Peripheral Nerve Block.** Vicki Buchda stated this opinion clearly reflects a role that is appropriate for the RN scope of practice. Content was not revised. The references were updated. A motion was made by Pat Johnson and seconded by Susan Poole to take to the January 2007 Board meeting for approval. Motion carried.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

- Take revised advisory opinion to January 2007 Board meeting – Judy Bontrager

**C. Prehospital Nursing.**

Donna Heitmann and guest Sandy Espinoza presented the revised draft for this advisory opinion. The draft included information pertaining to 2 levels of nurses: The RN who did volunteer work with EMS groups and the RN who worked regularly with trauma/EMS agencies. The committee discussed whether the Advisory Opinion should include a “laundry list” of procedures or be stated in broader terminology. Discussion also centered on the need for an education curriculum for pre-hospital nurses. Guest Jason Lin with Eagle Air Medical Transport stated the education given to their staff. Heitmann discussed problem areas which occur in rural areas re: transporting of patients. The committee voiced the need to keep scope of practice separate, from the “politics” of specific regions of the state, in the advisory opinion. After an informative discussion relating to the challenges faced (especially in rural areas) and the educational needs, the committee requested a revised draft be brought to the March SOP committee.

The committee also addressed a question that had been submitted requesting a list of “nursing drugs” that are being used in the field. The committee asked Heitmann to respond to the individual. The list of drugs would be determined by the employer.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Bring revised draft to March SOP committee – Donna Heitmann

**D. Intravenous Administration of Contrast Media.**

Discussion centered on the need to have a physician immediately available when the nurse administered contrast media. Ann Earhart stated it is occurring in free-standing facilities without a physician being present. The question was raised as to whether Department of Health Services requires a physician to be present. It was suggested additional information be obtained and discussed at the March, 2007, SOP meeting.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Return to SOP meeting, March 2007, for further discussion – Ann Earhart

**E. Intubation: Endotracheal, Esophageal Gastric Airway, Esophageal Obturator Airway.**

Kim Eacott discussed the update in the rationale and the references. The committee felt there needed to be additional information included about the course of instruction, and asked that it be placed on the March, 2007 agenda for review.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Review and revise draft Advisory Opinion to present at March, 2007, SOP committee meeting – Kim Eacott, Tina McConn

**F. Sheath Removal, Placement of Mechanical Compression Devices and Deployment of Vascular Closure Devices.**

Kim Eacott reviewed the suggested changes in this Advisory Opinion. Eacott noted that there really is no need to include limits to the size of sheaths. She stated that the sheaths utilized now are much smaller than in the past. Motion was made by Ann Earhart and seconded by Donna Heitmann to take revised Advisory Opinion to the January 2007 Board meeting for approval. Motion carried.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Take to January 2007 Board meeting for approval – Judy Bontrager

**G. Supervision of Licensed Practical Nurse by Registered Nurses.**

This opinion was reviewed by the committee and wording changed slightly in 2 paragraphs. A motion was made by Joan Olcott and seconded by Vicki Buchda to take to the Board in January 2007 for approval. Motion carried.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Take to January 2007 Board Meeting for approval – Judy Bontrager

**V. Review of Proposed Advisory Opinion**

**A. Palliative Sedation at End of Life**

Kathy Pollard presented the proposed Advisory Opinion. The committee affirmed the need for such an opinion. A motion was made by Karen Hardy and seconded by Ann Earhart to take the advisory opinion to the January 2007 Board meeting for approval. Motion carried.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Take to January 2007 Board Meeting for approval – Judy Bontrager

**B. Removal of Chest Tubes.**

Joey Ridenour, Executive Director submitted a question from a local hospital, who was inquiring about removal of chest tubes by a RN. Kim Eacott researched this question and developed a proposed Advisory Opinion stating it is within the SOP for the RN to remove mediastinal and pleural chest tubes. Current practice reflects RN's are already removing mediastinal chest tubes and some other states are allowing RN's to remove pleural chest tubes. The draft opinion was reviewed and the committee recommended that RN's should be permitted to remove mediastinal and pleural chest tubes for post-operative open heart surgical patients only. A motion was made by Vicki Buchda and seconded by Joan Olcott to take to the January 2007 Board for approval. Motion carried.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Take proposed Advisory Opinion to the January 2007 Board meeting for approval – Judy Bontrager

**VI. Holding Medications for Dialysis - FAQ**

Donna Heitmann presented a response to the question: “is it an acceptable practice for nurse’s to withhold medications prior to dialysis without an order?” The committee agreed that it is not acceptable, and that an order must be obtained. They requested the response be given to the Board (information only) and be placed on the web site.

**Recommendations/ actions taken/responsible for:**

Take response to the January 2007 Board meeting and place on AzBN web site under FAQ’s – Judy Bontrager

**VII. Paramedic role in acute care settings**

Joey Ridenour, Executive Director, requested the SOP committee to review and advise the Board on the role of the paramedics in the acute care setting.

Bases on research done by committee members Kristin Schmidt, Kathy Miller and Donna Heitmann, hospitals are utilizing paramedics they hire in an ED tech role. It was the feeling of these persons that the paramedics have valuable skills they could offer to facilities if they were utilized in their full capacity. Various committee members expressed these thoughts:

- The hospitals must be willing to employ paramedics to function in the paramedic role.
- Nurses would welcome paramedics as part of the team in the acute care setting.
- Physicians must be willing to train and supervise the paramedics.
- Nurses must have a good understanding of what the job description/scope of practice is for the paramedic in the acute care setting
- It may be good to put together a task force between AzDHS and AzBN to discuss opportunities for the future.

**Recommendations/actions taken/responsible for:**

Prepare response for review by SOP members then send to Joey Ridenour – Judy Bontrager.

**VIII. Changing Suprapubic Catheters**

A question was raised about LPN’s changing suprapubic catheters. Heide Johnson prepared a response. The committee approved and asked that it be sent to the Board (information only) and placed on the AzBN website.

**Recommendation/actions taken/responsible for:**

Take to the January 2007 Board meeting and place on the AzBN web site under FAQ – Judy Bontrager

**IX. Proposed meeting dates for SPO Committee – 2007**

The committee accepted the following date for SOP committee to meet in 2007.

March 6

June 12

August 28

November 27

**X. Assignments for Advisory Opinion Reviews - 2007**

Volunteers signed up for some of the Advisory Opinions that are due for review in 2007. The remainder of the Advisory Opinions can be assigned at our next meeting.

| <b>Last Revised</b> | <b>Advisory Opinion</b>   | <b>Responsible Members</b>   | <b>Date to Present to Committee</b> |
|---------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 3/03                | Ultrasound: Therapeutic and OB Diagnostic                       | Pat Johnson<br>Kathy Adamson                                       | 3/6/07                              |
| 3/03                | Intrauterine/Intracervical Insemination                         | Vicki Buchda<br>Kathy Pollard                                      | 3/6/07                              |
| 3/03                | Assessment of Patient Conditions by the RN                      | Marla Moore<br>Claudette Rodstrom<br>Marianne Locke<br>Debra Henry | 3/6/07                              |
| 3/03                | Ventilator Care by LPN's  | Heide Johnson<br>Joan Olcott                                       | 3/6/07                              |
| 7/02                | Deep Sedation for Ventilated Patients                           | Karen Hardy<br>Tina McConn   | 3/6/07                              |
| 11/02               | Lasers (Pigment and Vascular specific) for Cutaneous Procedures | Joan Olcott  | 3/6/07                              |

#### **XI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

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Judy Bontrager, RN, MN

Minutes submitted to the Board January 2007

Minutes approved by the SOP Committee

JB/lw

**Scope of Practice Committee Meeting  
Arizona State Board of Nursing**

**November 28, 2006**

**List of Attendees**

SOP Committee Members

Chris Benoit, RN, BSN, CNOR, MPH, CPHQ  
Judy Bontrager, RN, MN  
Vicki Buchda, RN, MS  
Kimberly Eacott, RN, BSN, CCRN  
Ann Earhart, RN, MSN, CRNI  
Judith Hayter, LPN  
Donna Heitmann, RN, BSN, MPH  
Debra Henry, RN, RDH, MS, NHA, CLNC  
Mary Hubenthal, RN  
Heide Johnson, LPN  
Patricia Johnson, LPN  
Marianne Locke, RN  
Tina McConn, RN  
Kathy Miller, RN, MSN  
Joan Olcott, RN  
Kathleen Pollard, MSN, RN, CHPN  
Susan Poole, RN, CRNI, BSN, MS, CNSN  
Claudette Rodstrom, RN, MSA  
Karen Stewart, RN, MSN

Guests

Jason Lin – Eagle Air Med